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BLOUDY

NEVVES

FROM Portſmouth:

Being a true Relation of a great and desperate Onset given by Major *Randol*, on Friday Morning last: With the particulars thereof, the manner of the Engagement, and the number killed and taken prisoners.

Also, the re-inforcing and securing of Ports *Down Fort* by the Parliaments Forces. And a Declaration of Sir *Arthur Haslrig*, and Vice-Admiral *Lawson*: With *Propoſals* to the *People*, *Army*, *Navy*, and the Militia of *London*, and the *Countrey*.

Likewiſe, a Meſſage from General *Monck*, to the Lords, Knights, Gentlemen, and Sheriffs, in the Northern parts; And their Anſwer thereunto.

London, Printed for *Alexander Frere*, 1659.

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A MESSAGE FROM General MONCK;

To the Knights, Sheriffs, and Justices, in their respective Shires, Cities, Towns, and CORPORATIONS.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

HAving a Call from God and his people to march into *England* to assert and maintain the Liberty and Being of *Parliaments*, our antient Constitution, and therein the Freedom and Rights of the people of these three Nations from arbytrary and tyrannical Usurpation upon their Consciences, persons, and Estates, and for a Godly Ministry, I do therefore expect from you the Nobility, Gentlemen, and Sheriffs, and the Justices of peace, and each one of you, that you do preserve the peace of the Commonwealth in your shire. And I do hereby authorize you to suppress all Tumults, Stirrings, and unlawful *Assemblies*, and that you hold no correspondency with any of *Charles Stuarts* party, or adherents, but such

apprehend such as shall make any disturbance, and send them in to the next Garison: And do further desire you to countenance and encourage all the Godly Ministry, and all that truly fear God in the Land: and that you continue faithful to own and assert the Interest of Parliamentary Government, in your several places and stations, I hope my absence will be very short: but I do assure you that I will procure from the *Parliament* what ever may be for the good Government and relief of this Nation, and doubt not but to obtain abatements in your *Assess*, and other publick burdens, according to the proportion of *England*. And what further service I may be able, I shall not be wanting in that which may promote the happiness and peace of this afflicted people. I shall not trouble you further, but begg your prayers, and desire you to assure your selves that I am

Your faithful Friend, and humble Servant,
George Monck.

Edinburgh, Novemb. 15. 1659.

To which the Lords, Knights, and Gentlemen, returned an answer by the Earl of *Glencairn*, and Sir *James Stuart*, That they are satisfied with his Lordships Engagement, and Grounds thereof, and that they were resolved to concur with his Lordships desires, in a mutual and affectionate concurrence, and in a positive owning of the Parliament, and disowning all other Interests whatsoever.

This answer being returned, his Lordship gave them thanks, and ordered them to convene and assemble in the *Parliament*-House on the 12th instant: and the additional Forces being come from the *Highlands*, and other parts of the Nation, a Rendezvouz was appointed, and Proclamation made at the Head of each respective Regiment, both of Horse and Foot, For all persons whatsoever, either Officers and Souldiers, throughout the army, that could not freely, willingly, or consciously, engage with Him, in this present Expedition to lay down their Arms & depart the Army; and that for his own part, he had a deep sense of this great and National Affair, having just grounds of dissatisfaction, and that he could not comply with any, who should refuse, or seem dubious, to stand or adhere to a warrantable concurrence: His Undertakings being such, that the cannon-

nour of his Heart bore him Teſtimony and Evidence of the juſtneſs of his *Cauſe*; and that he ought not to violate the Authority of *Parliaments*, whoſe Legiſlative Power and Freedom, every individual Member were bound to aſſert and maintain, after ſuch ſolemn aſſurances of faithfulneſs and obedience; and to aſſert the honour and integrity of ſuch Noble *Patriots*, who for many years had undergone a Labyrinth of Troubles, and ſtood even in the very Gap and Gulph of the Ruines, Deſolations, and Miſeries, that for many yeaars threatned theſe diſtracted, divided, and bleeding Nations.

Proclamation being thus made by ſound of Trumpet, the Army drew off in a Regimental way, General *Monck* leading the Van, and Major General *Morgan* bringing up the Rear; and the Northern *Aviſoes* ſpeaks them to be about nine thouſand Foot, two thouſand Horſe and twelve hundred Dragoons: This ſeems high, and to exceed in Numeration; for the Letters from *Newcaſtle* import otherwiſe, and carry a contrary *Dialect*.

Upon their advance to *Berwick*, the General commanded Colonel *Ogle* to march over the Bridge into *Northumberland*, he having the Conduct of the Scots and Highlands, his appointed ſtation being at *Alnwick*: The reſt of his Forces are quartered about *Fenwick*, and the parts adjacent; obſerving not onely a vigilant poſture at the ſeveral paſſes and Avenues, but alſo a ſtrong Guard near the Holy Iſland.

The Gentry Miniſtry, and Commonalty, throughout the whole Countrey of *Northumberland*, have declared a mutual concurrence, and the Lord *Lambert* is approaching towards the Confines of *Berwick*.

General *Monck* having ſent a Letter to Vice-Admiral *Lawſon*, deſiring his concurrence for reſtoring of the *Parliament*, and to remove the Interruption put upon them the 13th of *October* laſt; received this anſwer, That nothing ſhould be wanting in him to compoſe all differences, and to obliterate all things whatſoever, by any perſon or perſons, concerned in the late difference betwixt the Parliament and Army.

Since which time, the ſaid Vice-admiral hath declared, That through the Lords aſſiſtance, he will in all Chriſtian wayes and means, Endeavour the begetting a right Underſtanding betwixt the

the Parliament and Army, and a happy compoſure (if it may be) without bloud-ſhed: But if there be yet an endeavour by Force to hinder the Parliament, from returning to the Exercise and Diſcharge of their Truſt, who have ſo often bin declared the ſupream Authority of theſe Nations, That then he will to the utmoſt of his power, with his life, and all that is dear to him, uſe his whole Intereſt for the removing of that Force, and reſtore Them to their Freedom and priviledges. Further declaring, (as in the preſence of the Lord) That he hath no aym nor ends to advance particular Intereſts, but the Intereſt of Chriſt, and the good and weal of all the people of God, in their Rights, Civil and Religious, and of theſe poor ſuffering Nations in general; utterly diſclaiming the Intereſt of *Charles Stuart*, and all his *Adherents*, or the Intereſt of any ſingle perſon whatſoever, of Houſe of Lords; doubting not but to find the concurrence and aſſiſtance of all the faithful and upright-hearted in the Land. For whoſe ſakes, next to the Cauſe of Chriſt, (God being his Witneſs,) he hath engaged.

And he therefore invites all Brethren of the Churches, Army, Navy, and Militia of the City of *London* and *Country*, and all that profeſs love to God, and his people, to joyn with him, and give their Chriſtian aid and aſſiſtance in the performance of the premiſes, which the Lord hath called them unto; leſt when too late, They have cauſe to lament the non-improvement of the Opportunity that God hath put into his hands, once more to aſſert the priviledges of Parliament, and Liberty of the good people of this Nation.

In purſuance of theſe Reſolutions, Sir *Arthur Haſlrig*, and the reſt of the Parliament men at *Portſmouth*, have declared, That they intended not to levy or raiſe any war in the Nation, thereby to open a breach for the Common Enemy to enter, being more concerned againſt him, then to afford him ſuch advantage, but that the Treaty being on foot betwixt the Army and Gen. *Monck*, the Commander in chief of the Parliaments Forces in *Scotland*, the gaining of that place might be a means to facilitate it, and ballance the affair, and that they hoped it would produce a right underſtanding and unity ſo much deſired by all good men.

To

To which the Townſmen anſwered, That they would ſtand by them in theſe their Intentions, and afford them all the aſſiſtance they can.

The Town is well fortifyed and provided, the Souldiery unanimous, and the Inhabitants very chearful and reſolute to go through with them, and to bear part of the Duty, hoping by their cordial concurrence to engage the reſt of the conſiderable places of the Nation to do the like. They have already reinforced Port *Down fort* with four pieces of Artillery more, and have lodged there a convenient Gariſon. They have alſo ſix Companies of Foot of the Army, and have raiſed two Troops of Horſe in the Town.

There are ten gallant Men of War in the Harbour, who have declared themſelves for the Parliament, two whereof have ſet ſail with Commiſſion upon the State affairs. Vice-admiral *Lawſon* is expected daily with the Fleet under his Command to their aſſiſtance. The *Marſton-Moor*, *Phenix*, *Lyon*, and *Pelican* Frigats, are rigging. Mr. *Wallop*, the moſt conſiderable Gentleman in thoſe parts, is gone into *Portſmouth*, with 50 Horſe, moſt of them his Tenants.

Sir *Arthur* hath further declared, That nothing will be done by Treaty at *Newcaſtle*, without a preliminary Article for reſtoring the Parliament to a Free Seſſion without any other condition.

By

By an Expreſs from *Portſmouth* on Saturday night laſt, it is certified, That Major *Randal* having raiſed about fourty chaſe and ſelected Horſe, with ſtout Riders, and well arm'd, on Friday laſt made his approach within 5 or 6 miles of *Portſmouth*; but was forced to fight his paſſage through two Troops of Horſe, and ſeveral Companies of Colonel *Gibbon's* Regiment of Foot, leaving five of his men behind, two being ſlain, and three taken priſoners, having their horſes ſhot under them. Some few were wounded, but got off to Ports *Down-fort*, where the Bridge being let down, they marched over to *Portſmouth*, with their Red Standard and one Trumpet ſounding, devoting their ſervice to Sir *Arthur Haſilrigg*, who treated and entertained them with a friendly acceptation, welcoming them in with a Volley from the great Guns. Many of the Army-forces have re-inforced *Faram*, and the Towns adjacent, having very bad quarters, ſome lying in Barns, and other Out-places, yet they are very unanimous, and deſirous of action.

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